

APPLICANT(S): DA SILVA GONCALVES, Fernando Manuel et al.
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REMARKS

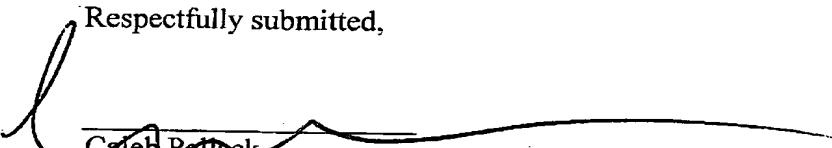
Applicants request entry of the Preliminary Amendment. The amendment to the specification is being made to clarify related application data and to conform the specification to US practice. The claims have been amended to conform to US practice and to eliminate multiple dependencies. Applicants have cancelled claim 11 without prejudice or disclaimer. Applicants note that the amendments add no new matter.

Applicants assert that the present invention is new, non-obvious and useful. Prompt consideration and allowance of the claims is respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner have any question or comment as to the form, content or entry of this Amendment, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number below.

No fees are believed to be due in connection with this Preliminary Amendment, however, if any fee is due, the undersigned hereby authorizes the United States Patent and Trademark Office to charge such fees to Deposit Account 05-0649.

Respectfully submitted,


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